## l&MTLE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND EEFOKMEE 15

traducers, all inay read in the little volume entitled " Truth on the March."

But before Francois Zola made fresh efforts the matter in of fortifying Paris, he had guitted Marseilles for Aix, old capital of Provence, having observed in the course some visits how greatly that ancient city and the some surrounding country suffered from a lack of water. idea of damming certain gorges, forming huge reservoirs into which the mountain torrents might fall, bringing the water to Aix hy a canal, occurred to him. he had already studied the matter for some months. when. in September, 1838, the chief local journal, "Le Memorial d'Aix." gave publicity his views. preliminary agreement with the Municipal Council followed in December. and from that moment, what with this canal scheme, Marseilles project, and the plans for fortifying Paris. Zola had his hands full. He was frequently compelled to the capital, and on one such occasion he fell in love and married.

This occurred early in 1839. Trarigois Zola, who deis genuine scribed Italian as being a in dark, with appearance, a very expressive face, a delicately curved mouth, shaped nose, and piercing eyes, was then three and forty,

while his bride was in her twentieth year, simple,, gentle, and very pretty. Their first meeting recalled **Paust** of and Marguerite. He perceived her as she was leaving church, fell in lore with her on the spot, sought her home and her parents in the Eue de Gldry, and wooed her with all the ardour of his Italian temperament Her name was Fran§oise Emilie Aubert. Born in 1819, under the of the tower of Philip Augustus, in the little town of Dour-